

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/814,507

Examiner

Tam Nguyen

Applicant(s)

WU, SHEN YI

Art Unit

3764

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☐ This communication is responsive to ____.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-5.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: ____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date ____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date ____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date ____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date ____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other ____


JEROME DONNELLY
PRIMARY EXAMINER

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

1. The application has been amended as follows:

In the Abstract:

On Page 14, in line 2, delete "device in mounted" and insert --device is mounted--

In the specification:

On Page 1, in line 12, delete "opposite respective" and insert --opposite ends respectively--

On Page 1, in line 22, delete "trains." and insert --trained.--

On Page 6, in line 11, delete "hole" and insert --hold--

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The claims as presented avoid the prior art of record. The prior art does not disclose an exerciser with a frictional damping device that adjustably compresses a plurality of dampening components against a main frame and a pair of swing arms that are stepped upon by a user for exercise. In particular, the damping components comprise a post horizontally attached to the frame such that the frame divides the post equally into first and second sections, first and second stoppers respectively sleeved onto the first and second sections of the post to abut against the frame, then first and

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second friction washers respectively sleeved onto the sections of the post, then first and second sleeves pivotally sleeved onto the sections of the post such that each friction washer is sandwiched between its respective stopper and sleeve, a first swing arm securely connected to the first sleeve, a second swing arm securely connected to the second sleeve, a shaft extended through the first and second sleeves and the post, a locking mechanism mounted to a first end of the shaft to prevent the shaft from rotating relative to the post and an adjusting set mounted to a second end of the shaft for reducing the distance between the first and second sleeves to increase the friction force between the first stopper, friction washer and sleeve and the second stopper, friction washer and sleeve such that rotation of the adjusting set may increase or decrease the effort required by a user to move the swing arms during exercise.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Holstag '575, Brigliadoro '107, Dalebout et al. '126, 776, Piller '522 and Gvoich '027 each disclose an exercise device having pedals or swing arms and a frictional resistance means that includes frictional discs or washers.

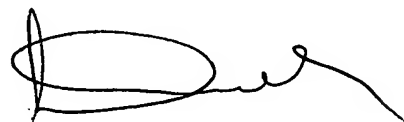
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tam Nguyen whose telephone number is 571-272-4979. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9-5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Gregory Huson can be reached on 571-272-4887. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

July 21, 2006

JEROME DONNELLY
PRIMARY EXAMINER

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jerome Donnelly', with a stylized, looping flourish at the end.